

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Erik Swanson on 7/2/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 13 and 22.

In claim 12 please amend to read the following:

12a --A method for treating a crystal having nonlinear optical properties and including foreign atoms which bring about specific absorption of incoming light, the method comprising: converting the foreign atoms in the crystal to a lower valency state by an oxidation process, thereby liberating electrons; removing, during the oxidation process, the liberated electrons from the crystal using an external current source so as to reduce an optical absorption value of the